13. Rs. 37,961 under "39—Miscellaneous—3—C—Grain purchase—Establishment

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan-Peishkar)*: I beg to move that an additional allotment of Rs. 37,961 under "39—Miscellaneous 3—C—Grain Purchase may be granted. The term of Grain Purchase staff has been extended for one year from 27th January, 1945. It is a temporary establishment whose term is being extended from time to time. This time we extended the term for one year. The expenditure detailed below is necessary as explained in the note to the Standing Finance Committee. The details are given there. There are five additional Tahsildars who are grain purchasing Tahsildars on Rs. 150 for 5½ months. There are five accountants, one for each Taluk except Cranganur on Rs. 40-60, five clerks on 25—40, five typist—clerks on Rs. 31 and so on. I request that the amount may be sanctioned.

Mr. T. A. Ramachadra Ayyar *(Nellayi)*: On a point of information which grain are they going to purchase, of which harvest?

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(DiwanPetshkar)*: Of the harvests beginning from a portion of the Mundakan harvest, Puncha harvest and the next year's Virippu harvest and the Mundakan harvest.

Demand put and carried

14: Rs: 12,000 under "39—Miscellaneous—3 (c) Grain Purchase T:A.

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan-Peishkar)*: I beg to move for an additional allotment of Rs. 12,000 under "39—Miscellaneous T. A." This is intended for the payment of T. A. to the five Tahsildar, the Parvathiams and others.

Mr. K. Narayaa Menon *(Mulakunnathukavu)*: May I know whether these Tahsildars are not given lump sums by way of T. A.

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar)*: They are given ordinary T. A. under the T. A. rules.

Mr. V. K. Bhaskara Menon *(Cranganur)*: May I know whether it was not a system by which a lump allowance of Rs. 150 or so was paid?

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan-Peishkar)*: That is car allowance in cases where they have to use cars.

Mr. V. K. Bhaskara Menon *(Cranganur)*: Then what is this T. A. ?

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan-Peishkar)*: Persons always do not use the car and all person are not given cars for the whole period. Whenever they travel in train or other conveyances they are given T. A. That has nothing to do with car allowance.

Mr. V. K. Bhaskara Menon *(Cranganur)*: What I wanted to know is what happens to car allowance when T. A. is paid?

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan-Peishkar)*: Then they won't be given ordinary T. A.

Mr: K: Narayana Menon *(Mulakunnathukavu)*: May I know whether this 12,000 rupees asked for in the Suppementary grants includes car allowance?

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar)*: No, no. that does not include.

Mr. K. Naraya Menon *(Mulakunnathukavu)*: Then I don't press my cut motion, Sir.

Demand put and carried

15. Rs. 19,730 Under "39—Miscellaneous—3—C—Other charges"

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan-Peishkar)*: I beg to move for an additional allotment of Rs. 19,730—Under "39—Miscellaneous 3—C—Other charges". In the note to the Standing Finance Committee the necessity for this grant has been explained, *viz.*, hiring of Type-writers etc., hiring of furniture and such other items. Then additional staff were appointed from time to time. We had not made sufficient items of furniture we were carrying on by some adjustments which it has become impossible to continue. Then there is miscellaneous expenditure in the shape of lighting charges and other things of that kind. Then comes duty allowance. Several officers are being given duty allowance, *i. e.*, Tahsildars are given 25 per cent of their pay, Revenue Inspectors are given at the rate of Rs. 10, the Parvathiams are given Rs. 5, Masapadis are given Rs. 5. Originally we appointed clerks on Rs. 40-60 and seniors alone could be appointed in those posts. It was found difficult when seniors were sent for grain purchase work to carry on the work of the Revenue Section. So men on Rs. 25-40 who were capable of doing this work were chosen and given an extra allowance of Rs. 10. By this arrangement Government also gained by way of salary. Thus the total amount comes to 19,000 and odd rupees.

The Hon'ble President occupied this Chair at the stage

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CUT MOTION

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* Sir, I move....

Mr. President: I think the Hon'ble Member must preface his speech with an apology to the House for being absent when his name was called.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* Sir, I too sincerely apologise to the Houee for not being in this House when my name was called and I will see that it does not occur again.

I move that the allotment be reduced by one rupee to urge upon the Governmet the necessity of making rules regarding commandeering to the more rigorous as far as the bigger class of land-owners are concerned and make them less rigorous as far as the poor cultivators and holders of land who are comparatively poor are concerned. The object, Sir, is.....

Mr. President: The Hon'ble Member will kindly address the Chair.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* Sir, there was an observation which I didn't catch and I was trying to find it out.

Mr. President: The Hon'ble Member need not take note of such observation

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* As it was from a veteran member I tried my best to give effect to his observations if they are audible and also sensible.

The fact is that obtained today, Sir, as far as the purchase of paddy is concerned from land-owners and cultivators is that when bigger folks are concerned then it is intentional or otherwise the actual facts are that they are shown some leniency and when it comes to the case of the poor it comes to a merciless extraction. If that is the fact, Sir, it is something which has to be immediately rectified and sufficient adjornment made for the past since committed. Therefore the question is whether that is a fact obtaining toady. To a question answered in this House during the last meeting with regard to the amount of paddy left for home consumption in the case of five individual jenmies in the Talapilly Taluk the answer was to the effect that it will not be considered proper to disclose the amounts reserved for their home consumption. Without going into the merits of such an answer what we can gather from the answer is that there is something shady about it. If there is nothing shady as far as that particular big jenmies of Talapilly Taluk are concerned absoultely no objection can exist in revealing what exactly is the quantity left for home consumption. So the very fact that the Government found or observed that it was not desirable to give out the exact quantities strenghtens and supports one part of the suggestion that I make through this cut motion, and it is also very well know to people who move about and see what is actually taking place as far as the poorer cultivators are concerned. It is true that they are given the allotted amount of 3 paras per individual and the proportion is kept up as far as the young ones in the house are concerned. That is given. It is all right. But the method of giving them in the matter of commandeering the paddy, the processes that lead up to the taking of paddy from these cultivators as described by one Hon'ble Member while the food question was under discussion during the Vrischigam Session. I think there is something which amount to these persons being treated not as human beings but as cattle. Something to that effect was observed by the Hon'ble Member for Anthikad who is not in his seat now. But he was giving us the very picture of what actually takes place in village parts. The reply often used to be that definite instructions have been given to the Tahsildars as also to the Tahsildars subordinates that they must deal fairly with this Class of People and all that. The answer is that and the fact also is that instructions have been given. The question of questions is whether those instructions are carried out in fact and in truth. Those who know the conditions of the village parts, those who have taken pains to study them will say, Sir, that these instructions are not followed. There is no use of having instructions on the paper. Instructions must be put into practice. So the result is that the poor cultivator is unduly mulcted, while the bigger folk is unnecessarily treated fairly and even benevolently. There may be reasons for that sort of differential treatment. It is not for to be dillate on the reasons why these big men are treated thus. I know that some considerations may be their high connections or the big influence that they command or the various place in which influence can be exercised and similar things. Whatever be the reason for the differential treatment it is a fact, Sir, why should it be put to an end. During supplementary questions with reference to the question that I just mentioned earlier I ask the question whether in the accounts shown to the Grain Purchasing Tahsildars or the account kept by these jenmies, there are not items of expenditure shown generally as items of expenditure in kind while as a matter of fact there are in cases of such expenditure being made by payment in cash. So if instead of actual instances where cash is spent accounts are prepared to show that such

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expenditure was made in kind, the neceasary inference follows. So much of paddy is delebrately taken by them and connived at by the authorities to be dealt with in the black-market. I submit if every grain of paddy from all available sources is taken how does the question of black-marketting come in? If everything that is saleable is taken from these jenmies absolutely no grain can remain within to be dealt with in the black-market.

Mr. A. V. Moothedan *(Chalakkudi)*: Where is the black-market?

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri)*: You will find if you make enquiries.

So my respectfull submission, Sir, is the very existence of black-market—it will not be denied even by the Hon'ble Member in charge of the department of supplies that black-markets do exist, that is a proposition which cannot be denied if he cares to go into the real state of affairs, that they exist has been admitted and accepted—the very existence of black-market clearly shows that what is takeable is not taken and naturally what is left with the bigger folk goes into it and not that what is left to the poorer classes. The object of the cut motion is to deal with equitably with all the sections. The sufferer in the case of inequitable treatment is certainly the poorer class. The other men even if full equity is not shown to them are not going to suffer as much as the poorer classes of tenants—not that I plea for enquitable treatment towards the bigger folk, I insist that everything that is takeable from the bigger jenmies must be taken in the interests of the common people to whose benefit commandeering has been introduced. With these observations I commend the cut motion for the acceptance of the House.

*മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. എസ്സ്" പണിക്കർ: മിസ്റ്റർ പ്രസിഡണ്ട്", സർ, നെല്ലുവാങ്ങുന്നതിൽ പ ലതരത്തിലുള്ള അനൌചിത്യങ്ങളും നെല്ലുവാങ്ങുന്ന ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാർ കാണിക്കുന്നുണ്ടെന്നുള്ള സംഗതി ഗവമ്മെണ്ടിനെ ധരിപ്പിക്കുവാൻവേണ്ടിയാണ്" ഞാൻ ഇതിനെ അനുകൂലിക്കുന്ന തു". ജന്മിമാക്ക വെറുമ്പാട്ടക്കുടിയാന്മാർ ഇത്ര നെല്ലുവീതം പാട്ടം കൊടുക്കണമെന്ന വ്യവ സ്ഥയുണ്ട്". എന്നാൽ നെല്ലു വാങ്ങിക്കുവാൻവരുന്ന ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാർ ഈ വെറുമ്പാട്ട കുടി യാന്മാരുടെ കയ്യിൽനിന്നും ജന്മിമാക്ക പാട്ടം കൊടുക്കേണ്ടതായ നെല്ലുംകൂടി വാങ്ങിക്കുന്നു ണ്ട്". ജന്മിമാക്ക പാട്ടം നെല്ലായിട്ടതന്നെ കുടിയാന്മാർ കൊടുത്തിട്ടില്ലെങ്കിൽ നിലം അ വരിൽനിന്നും ജന്മികൾ ഒഴിപ്പിക്കുന്നതാണ്". നെല്ലായിട്ടതന്നെ പാട്ടം കൊടുക്കുവാൻ സാധിക്കാത്തതുകൊണ്ട് ൻ ൦ ദിവസത്തിനകത്തു വസ്തു ഒഴിവാക്കുവാൻ ജന്മികൾ കേസു കൊടുത്ത ട്ടുള്ളതായി പല ദൃഷ്ടാന്തങ്ങളും തൃശ്ശിവപേരൂർ താലൂക്കിലും മുകുന്ദപുരം താലൂക്കി ലുമുണ്ടായിട്ടുണ്ട്".

മിസ്റ്റർ എ. വി. മൂത്തേടൻ: കേസു കൊടുത്തിട്ട കോടതി അങ്ങിനെ വിധിയായി ട്ടുണ്ടൊ ?

മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. എസ്സ്". പണിക്കർ: കോടതിയിൽ വിധിയാകും. കേസായിട്ടെ ഉള്ള. അതു മുൻസിഫിന്റെ യുക്തംപോലെ ചെയ്യും. ഇങ്ങിനെ പല കേസുകളും ഇപ്പോൾ കോട തിയിൽ വന്നിട്ടുണ്ട്".

ഇതിനുംപുറമെ നെല്ലുവാങ്ങുന്നതിന്റെ ഉദ്ഘാടിക കിട്ടുവാനും വളരെ പ്രയാസം നേരി ടുന്നുണ്ട്". ജന്മി കേസു കൊടുക്കുമ്പോൾ കുടിയാനു കോടതിയിൽ ഉദ്ഘാടിക കെട്ടേണ്ടിവരു ന്നു. എന്നാൽ ഗവമ്മെൻറിൽനിന്നു കുടിയാനു കിട്ടുവാനുള്ള സംഖ്യ ഗവമ്മെൻറു കൊടു ക്കുന്നുമില്ല. ഇങ്ങിനെയുള്ള ഒരു വലിയ വിഷമം ഇതിൽ നേരിടുന്നുണ്ട്". അതുകൊണ്ട് മേ ലാൽ ജന്മിയുടെ കയ്യിൽനിന്നും സ്റ്റോറുമെണ്ടു വാങ്ങിക്കാതെ വെറുമ്പാട്ടക്കുടിയാന്മാരുടെ ക യ്യിൽനിന്നും ഇങ്ങിനെ നെല്ലുവാങ്ങിച്ചു അവരെ കഷ്ടപ്പെടുത്തരുതെന്നു കീഴുദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാ രെ ഒന്നുപദേശിച്ചുൽ കൊള്ളാമെന്നു എനിക്കൊരുപേക്ഷയുണ്ട്".

Mr. K. T. Achyutan *(Ezhuvas-Talappalli)*: I also support the cut motion moved by the Hon'ble Member of Vadakkancheri. It is also my experience that the paddy purchasing officers are very trouble some people to the poor cultivators. They have so to say, begun to look upon this officers as tigers. The officers will go to the villages and say if you don't measure out the quantity fixed by us within a few days we will see that it is measured out. Such is the expressions used. I have come to note this from certain persons who had themselves such experience. As far as the big jenmies are concerned, these people go there as guests not as Government officers, they are received properly;, treated there, they sit quiet and enquire in a leisurely way how much paddy you will get, how much do you require for your use and what will be the balance for the Government. That is the way they carry on with the bigger folk, and are treated in a quite different way from the poor agriculturists. As far as my information goes even after repeated requests to treatment, given to the poor agriculturists and verumpattam

* Speech not corrected by the Hon'ble Member.

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tenants in the case of small quantities of paddy taken from them is entirely different from that adopted towards the rich classes. And that attitude we have been critising in the Taluk Committee meetings but there is no improvement. I have one suggestion to make, and that is these Tahsildars must also be present in the Taluk Committee meetings. They must be present when these questions are discussed in the committees so that they can know how the trend of the discussions go with regard to their work. At present they are not attending these meetings, only the Assistant Supply Officers are present. Considering the fact that questions relating to grain purchase are also discused there the Tahsildars who are responsible for grain purchase in the respective taluks it will be better if they attend the meetings and understand what is the non-official opinion about the work they are doing. If the Government desire to have justice dispensed equally to the poor and the rich these officers also must be in future attending these meetings.

Then, Sir, as was suggested by the Hon'ble Member for Vadakkancheri if certain people are given excess paddy than what is entitled to their for their own use, surely the excess will go to the black-market, the next day. They will conveniently sell it and receive their cash which will generally be more than double of what the Government will be giving to them. So if the Government take this matter in a leisurely manner as they are doing in many other matters very serious consequences are sure to follow.

***Mr. A. V. Moothedan** *(Chalakkudi)*: Sir, I wish to add one or two observations. I think it is better that the Director of Food Supplies gives a direction to the Grain Purchase Tahsildars to attend the Council so that they may hear what is being said of their work. It will be better if they come here and hear for themselves what the members are speaking about their activities. I think it will be a means of great improvement in their working. That is one suggestion.

The Hon'ble Member for Vadakkancheri has stated that paddy purchasing should be equitable. Equity is a word which is so difficult of definition. The idea of equity will vary according to individuals. One English-man is said to have remarked that equity varies according to the length of the feet of the Judge. So this word equity is a word which cannot be readily given a uniform interpretation. It will vary with the individual's ideas about rich people, poor people, human sympathy and so on. Therefore by simply saying that it should be equitable we gain nothing. Government will never admit that they are inequitable. They will say we are doing things equitably. So by suggesting that paddy should be purchased equitably we gain nothing. Without practical suggestions as to how it is to be done there is no point in saying this.

The Hon'ble Member Mr. Panicker the Member for Mukundapuram Ezhuvas says that if a Verumpattamdar give paddy to the Sirkar he will be evicted by the jenmi for non-payment of pattam in kind. In the notification there is a clause that says, "do not pay paddy to the jenmi without the consent of the Tahsildar". That notification comes under the Defence of India Act and the rules framed there-under. So according to law we need not pay paddy as pattam. Then how can a tenant be evicted on that ground. He said that there are a few cases in the Trichur District Court and I think the Judge will decide the cases in the proper manner. Of course there are some people who rush to Court without any just cause. They may succeed in creating some trouble to verumpattamdars. Besides if you show the receipt where paddy is paid to Government and if the Jenmi wants paddy for his use he can go to the Director of Food Supplies who will allow him paddy according to necessity. Therefore, in some cases the jenmi can get pattom from the Government. Therefore this question of non-payment does not arise.

Mr. K. S. Panicker *(Ezhuvas-Mukundapuram)*: If the jenmi is not willing to accept the receipt ?

Mr. A. V. Moothedan *(Chalakkudi)*: He is bound to accept according to Law. If he wants paddy let him take the receipt to the Director of Food Supplies and ask for it. The Director has powers to give it. The tenant is not responsible for the legislation under the Defence of India Act. The tenants who give paddy to the Sirkar do so according to the Law. The tenants and jenmies are all bound by the Law. The provisions of the Tenancy Act are to that extent superseded by the notifications under the Defence of India Act. Therefore no tenant will be evicted on this ground. And no tenant will loose fixity of tenure. I am unable to understand that argument.

My friend submitted that Government Officers are more lenient to the rich and less lenient to the poor. That is a complaint that we have heard from the time of Christ. We have been

*Speech not corrected by the Hon'ble Member.

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hearing it for the last 2,000 years. Even there is a saying in the Bible what little the poor has will be taken away and given to the rich. That is a complaint that we have been hearing from the beginning of the world. Better have a socialist revolutionary system of Government. Then I think there will be some improvement. That also has to be seen. But according to the present state of administration there will be some sympathies we can't avoid them. However rich it rules we may frame we cannot avoid it. I can say it. I know some of these Tahsildars they are very good people, my neighbour is a Tahsildar and all the land-holders who want paddy come to my house and then go to the Tahsildar. They come there, my Advocate friends and others and they have all made fine remarks about him to me. There are very good Tahsildars who are engaged in the work and we cannot say they are terrible people. But there are in some places unfortunately some officers who are really very terrible; they are simply harassing tenants. There are several cases, I admit that, I have heard also. In such cases, the head of the department should take some action. These officers should not prove to be a terror to the villagers. On the other hand, they should as agents of the Government, encourage the cultivators to cultivate more paddy and at the same time collect what is due to the Sirkar in a gentle manner without offending anybody.

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* Sir, the first complaint of the mover of the cut motion is that there is indiscriminate treatment between the rich and the poor.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* Differential treatment.

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Direetor of Food Supplies):* His complaint is that favouritism is shown to the rich and the highly connected and the poor people are harassed. The only fact alleged in support of this allegation is an answer to a question on the floor of the House about the paddy income of some of the landlords. The Government replied.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* Not paddy income, but what is left.

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* That is, the Government refused to divulge the total paddy income of the various landlords.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* That is a mis-statement, Sir, that is not the question, nor the answer.

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* The only information that we did not divulge was the actual yield of the.....

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* Again I refute that statement; it is not. It is there in the typed copy of the proceedings.

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* I am sorry. We did not give also the actual figures relating to the actual purchase made from these landlords. But we at the same time indicated in the answer that on the whole 50 per cent of the gross produce has been purchased, thereby indicating that it was a satisfactory state of things. Generally, the average purchase in the State is about 40 per cent of the gross yield. That indicates that taken on the whole there has not been any reason for suspicion in the Government purchase of paddy. With regard to the reason for not divulging the exact figures, it was thought inadvisable that the actual income of paddy of the various landlords should be revealed here and made a subject for discussion, because that information may be used by interested parties to the prejudice of the party concerned. That is one reason why Government thought it was not advisable to divulge the information. There is nothing else behind it. I would like to assure the House that same rules are being enforced in the case of rich landlords as in the case of small land-holders. In the case of rich landlords, the pre-war accounts for a period of 3 years are invariably gone into and their requirements ascertained. Of course, it is possible to manipulate the accounts, but every care is taken to see that the accounts are shown and the items entered therein are genuine and supported by facts a careful enquiries and made by the officers and it is only after the Grain purchase Tahsildar is satisfied that the items are genuine that the demand is fixed.

The other side of the allegation is that the poor people are harassed. One item of complaint brought before the House is that small quantities of paddy are being purchased from the cultivator. One important principle that we adopt is that it is only the surplus paddy available with the cultivator that will be purchased. But in some cases the poor people want to part with the paddy for cash. If we will not buy it, it will go to the black-market, because he has to get the money required for his other needs. It is only in these case that purchases are made at all from the small cultivator. Strict instructions have been issued and always every case of violation of rules is being carefully enquired into and if proved, the paddy will be re-measured. Nowadays, there have been very few complaint of poor people being made to part with paddy unless with their consent.

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The next complaint made is of misbehaviour in the part of the Village Officers engaged in purchase work. It is on the authority of some other Hon'ble Member who is not here that the Hon'ble Mover alleged that people were frightened. It is very difficult to answer allegations without specific complaints. These officers are doing very unpleasant work and it is possible that frevolous and baseless allegations are made against them. Unless specific complaints are brought to us it is very difficult to take action. But we have tried to impress upon the subordinates both in writting and orally ,that they should be extremely careful in dealing with cultivators, there should not be any sort of haressing and that they should pay due to regard to then actual needs. We will continue to closely watch the conduct of the subordinates who are employed in grain purchase.

The existence of black-market was relied on as a circumstance to show that paddy purchase is not satisfactory. So long as all people do not eat alike and so long as we are adopting a standard ration it is possible that some paddy reserved by the cultivator will go into the black-market in fixing the demand we are proceeding upon the materials supplied to us and it is possible that some people may succeed in giving us in correct figures by hiding the turn facts. Every attempt is made to purchase the entire stock that is available.

With regard to the eviction suits pending in Court, I do not know what the subject matter is. In a few cases there has been some misunderstanding. When purchases were made the tenants seem to have thought that they would be absolved from the responsibility of paying pattam in kind and they took the receipts given by purchase officials as vouchers towards payment of paddy pattam. The Jenmi did not treat it as valid, it is reported, and in a few cases the Jenmies have gone to Court. The final decision is not over. If after the decisions in the cases, are over, the question arises whether any steps will have to be taken by the Government to protect the interests of the parties concerned that will be considered. There was a suggestion from the Hon'ble Member Mr. Achuthan that these Tahsildars may well attend the Taluk Committee meetings. That seems to be a useful suggestion and I shall take action accordingly. I once more assure the House that we are trying our best to carry out the commandeering work to the best of our ability. There may be some cases of rude or improper behaviour. We are dealing with them properly and giving exemplary pushishments to the delinquents. No leniency is shown when irregularities are found and we shall continue to do like this. I would, therefore, request that the House may be pleased to sanction the allotment.

*Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri)*: Mr. President, Sir, I am thankful that a very earnest attempt has been made by the Hon'ble Member for answering the points raised in serials. But what is the effect produced by the attempt? When we go into that question, I am sorry, Sir, that my points have not been met, although they were dealt with in the sequence. The allegations that I made, the charges that I made, against the grain purchasing system have not been answered. On the other hand, there are observations in the reply which strengthen and support my observations. It was stated, Sir, that the observations which I attributed to the Hon'ble Member for Anthikkad, which were made by him during the Vrischigam Session, the Hon'ble Member was not prepared to accept them unless specific instances of such misbehaviour on the part of the subordinate revenue staff were pointed out. He had on that occasion, Sir pointed out by giving everything but the name of the individual concerned, the locality, the nature of the misbehaviour and the effect of such misbehaviour, all that he gave, and due to courtesy or in the exigencies of the situation, he refrained from giving out the name, that is all. And if more instances are wanted, it is not difficult. It is up to the Government to seriously look into the question whether these things exist, and not take shelter by saying that they will be considered when specific instances are pointed out. It was stated that with regard to such persons exemplary punishments are given. Are there not cases pending with the Government, or with the Department rather, of excess misbehaviour on the part of certain Parvathiams and certain Menons having taken unduly large quantities of paddy not given to the Government, but kept with them, still undisposed? Will that fact be denied? If you will force me I will give you names, but I want to avoid that. It is stated, Sir, that instructions have been issued. I stated that in my opening remarks, that instructions are given, but what is the use of instructions being given unless they are enforced? Is it the case of the department that these instructions are followed in letter and spirit. If that is the position, it amounts only to the case of the department living in an imaginary world of course, the suggestion comes, fool's paradise. If you like to occupy that, by all means do it. Then with regard to the observation made, the charge made, by the Hon'ble Member for Mukundapuram

*Seech not corrected by the Hon'ble Member.

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Ezhuvas, not attempted to be replied by saying that—the Hon'ble Member conceded that jenmies not accepting the payment to the Sirkar as valid tender, cases, a few of them according to the Hon'ble Member, but a very good many according to me, are in Court—and the observation made by the Hon'ble Member was that the result of the judgment of the case is awaited, as if there are no other methods to enforce such payments as valid tender. The Government which spents large quantities of paper and typewriting material for issuing these instructions which are not acted upon, could as well order in appropriate methods that payments made by the tenants or jenmies on their behalf to the Sirkar for which a voucher is taken shall be considered as valid tender, if a sentence is written like that, will it be difficult, will it not be accepted. When practical things are placed before the Government, they try to shelve the issue by saying, we are watching how the different Courts will be disposing of this matter. One Judge may be observing that it is valid tender, another Judge might say it is not valid tender, and the only remedy is to take the matter to the final Court in appeal and be satisfied with the decision it gives. The whole thing can be avoided by the executive action of the Government. Such simple matters not being thought of and done do not become of a civilised Government or a responsive Government.

Then, with regard to the dealings with the bigger class of the tenants or rather the landlords. My first charge is favouritism is shown towards them and it is—attempted to be answered that in the matter of the specific instance pointed out by me, the manipulation of accounts, it is conceded that possibilities of manipulations do exist. The answer is that three years' accounts are gone into and on the basis of that allowance is given. It is only 3 years ago, or almost more than 2 years ago, that we started commandeering, and for the three years of course we know what those accounts are.

Then with regard to the existence of black-marketting in paddy, it was conceded that paddy left for personal consumption is sent on to the black-market. That is exactly why I say that absolutely no paddy should be left with these bigger folk unnecessarily. It is that paddy that goes to the black-market is the specific charge that I laid, and it is conceded by the Government. It is said that carefully scrutiny of the accounts—of the manipulated accounts—is made. What is the method that is adopted to see whether there are real facts shown, except that the Tahsildar pleases himself by going over such accounts or causes that to be gone into by his subordinates. What is the method adopted by you to show whether these entries in the account books show the actual disbursement in kind for the various items shown there. At the supplementary question time, I was trying to point out that for the purchase of various articles, a few of which had been mentioned by me, entries of 50 paras, etc., are shown and that is given credit for. Even if paddy in kind is paid, instead of 50, 5 paras might have been paid and the balance of 45 paras goes into the black-market. You do not deny my charge. I am very much obliged for that. Therefore, my submission to the House is the charges levelled against the Government in the matter of grain purchasing process are almost conceded by the Government and a futile attempt is made to explain them away. But futile attempts will remain only futile, but instead of that I do not want to administer a defeat. I will leave the subject with you for your lenient consideration and if possible to be acted upon. The Council is not going to end. It will meet again in Karkadagam. If things are not rectified in time and to the tune of the necessity of the case, proper action will be taken, can be taken and be rest assured, will be taken by the Council.

Mr. A. V. Moothedan *(Chalakkudi):* By the new Council.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* Yes, by the new Council, a more vigorous one, and rather a better one than the present one. Certainly that is the hope and my hope will be realised. So, I beg leave of the House to withdraw my cut motion.

The motion was, by leave, withdrawn

Demand put and carried

16. Rs. 8,000 under "29-A 1 —Civil Engineering—T. A."

Mr. B. V. K. Menon *(Joint Secretary to Government):* Sir, I rise to move for an additional allotment of Rs. 8,000 under "29-A1-Civil Engineering—T. A.". The sanctioned allotment under travelling allowance (Civil Engineering) for the current year is Rs. 16,610 and that for Mechanical Engineering is Rs. 3,500. Due to the journeys and halts of officers of the Public Works Department in connection with the recent visits of His Excellency the Viceroy and His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore, the creation of additional posts, etc., these amounts have become quite insufficient. I request the House may be pleased to vote the grant.

Demand put and carried

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